

HEAP

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HEAP FUNDING

- 100% federally funded
- Annual State block grant
- Administered and Regulated by NYS

HEAP COMPONENTS

- Regular Benefit
 - one benefit for primary heating source
- Emergency Benefits
 - one benefit for primary heating source
 - one benefit for a utility disconnect

HEAP Requirements

- Applicant must pay directly for heat
or
- The payment for heat is included in the
applicant's rent
and
- An applicant must be a U.S. citizen or
qualified alien.

Heap Eligibility

- Based on the Household's
 - INCOME
 - LIVING SITUATION

Income Eligibility Guidelines

<u>HH Size</u>	<u>Tier I</u>	<u>Tier II</u>
1	0 - 1,120	1,211 - 2,138
2	0 - 1,639	1,640 - 2,796
3	0 - 2,068	2,069 - 3,453
4	0 - 2,497	2,498 - 4,111
5	0 - 2,926	2,927 - 4,769
6	0 - 3,355	3,356 - 5,427
7	0 - 3,784	3,785 - 5,550
8	0 - 4,213	4,214 - 5,673

HEAP BENEFIT CALCULATION

- Household size and monthly income limit

METHODS FOR RECEIVING REGULAR HEAP BENEFITS

Automatic payment for all TA
and FS recipients

Everyone else has to apply for the program

The Heap Application

- Any household who did not receive a heap benefit “automatically” will have to complete the 2012/2013 Heap Application.
- Heap Applications are available on line @
 - <http://www.otda.state.ny.us/programs/applications/>
 - <https://www.mybenefits.ny.gov/>

Suffolk County Office of the Aging

- OFA is a certifier for Suffolk County residents who are:
 - Over the age of 60
 - Disabled

Located at:

H. Lee Dennison Building 3rd Floor, Hauppauge (631) 853-8200

Riverhead County Center, Riverhead (631) 852-1420

To inquire about pending applications, (631) 853-8326

Email @ aging.office@co.suffolk.ny.us

Fuel Sites

Locations and Phone Numbers

- Riverhead Energy Unit, 852-3631
 - 893 East Main St, Riverhead NY 11901
- Southwest Energy Unit, 854-6684, 854-1865
 - 2 South 2nd St, Deer Park, NY 11729
- Ronkonkoma Energy Unit, 854-9308
 - 3455 Veterans Memorial Hwy, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Changes for the New Season

- The Dates:
 - Heap opens November 19, 2012 and is projected to close March 15, 2013
- The Benefit amounts are slightly higher than 2011/2012
- The 2nd benefit (Emergency Benefit) will not be available until January 2, 2013.

The New Benefit Amounts

■ Regular HEAP benefit levels -Nov 16, 2011:

Oil, Kerosene, Propane	\$600
Wood/Coal or other deliverable	\$500
Natural gas/Electric heat	\$400

Renters Benefit

Tier I	\$25
Tier II	\$20

The New Benefit Amounts

Emergency HEAP benefit levels-January 2, 2013:

Oil, Kerosene, Propane	\$600
Wood/Coal/other	\$500
Heat related electric	\$160
Natural gas heat only	\$200
Natural gas and electric	\$560

HEAP EMERGENCY BENEFIT

(the 2nd benefit)

■ An “Emergency” is defined as:

- Less than 7-day supply of fuel
- Utility disconnect or scheduled disconnect
- Inoperable heating system for homeowners

REQUIREMENTS FOR the EMERGENCY BENEFIT

- The household must have already received a regular HEAP benefit and
- The household must be in an “emergency situation”

Emergency HEAP Requirements

- Be customer of record
- The original application is used to make the eligibility determination
- Have no available liquid resources
 - Exception: \$3,000 of resources exempt for heating system repair/replacement

METHODS FOR RECEIVING EMERGENCY BENEFITS

- The household has to contact their fuel site.
 - A brief telephone interview to verify application to current household situation
- Active TA & FS recipients
 - Call (631) 853-8820

MEETING NEEDS WITH TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

When HEAP benefits are not available to meet the energy emergency, applicants may apply for Temporary Assistance.

The TA program is a different program with stricter criteria.

- All available resources must be used to meet the emergency

MEETING NEEDS WITH TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE

- **TA categories:**
- Emergency Safety Net households (ESN)
- Emergency Assistance to Families (EAF)
- Emergency Assistance to Adults (EAA) SSI recipients

TIPS FOR THE ADVOCATE

- Understand there are no guarantees prior to Program opening.
- Please do not wait to apply.
- A phone interview is encouraged whenever possible to prevent over crowding at the sites.
